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HARBOUR SPIEL

August 2025
Issue 416



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EDITOR

Brian Lee

CIRCULATION (3,000)

Copies of the *Harbour Spiel* are mailed free to
1,375 homes between Egmont and Middlepoint
and are available by paid subscription and free
at locations throughout the Sunshine Coast.

Each issue of the *Harbour Spiel* (since Nov.
2006) is also available online as a PDF
download at www.harbourspiel.com.

CONTRIBUTORS

This month we thank: Leonard Lee, Robert
Livingston, Randy Picketts and Shane McCune.

COVER

If you didn't swim in the ocean, did you even
have a summer? Gunboat Bay, July 19. (Anne
Pino photo)

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September issue mails Aug. 29

(Advertising bookings before Aug. 15)

editorial

Dissecting Sunshine Coast crime rates



Brian Lee

I checked the publicly
available roster of files appearing be-
fore the court in Sechelt recently.

The “Sechelt Provincial Court
public access completed provincial
court list (adult),” is an online listing
of court appearances during a speci-
fied period, in this case between July
15 and 17.

A few years ago, this list might
have been a few pages long with the
typical drunken motor vehicle offenc-
es and thefts by serial offenders.

Even if you check it infrequently
as I do, the names become familiar.

But the assortment of names
listed has been ticking up in the past
few years and this time I was shocked
to find 10 pages of cases scheduled.

Even more shocking than the
number of cases scheduled was how
many involved assault.

Of the 54 criminal files before
the court over those three days, 17
involved:

- CCC 266, assault (9);
- CCC 267, assault with a weap-
on or causing bodily harm (5);
- CCC 268, aggravated assault
(1);
- CCC 270 (assaulting a peace
officer (1), and
- CCC 271, sexual assault (1).

In addition to a slew of other
charges like uttering threats, breach of
probation or theft, 15 defendants faced
charges for assault.

A September 2024 report by
BC's Ministry of Public Safety and
Solicitor General policing and secu-
rity branch, “British Columbia Polic-
ing Jurisdiction Crime Trends, 2014
- 2023,” shows incidents of violent
crime on the Sunshine Coast have
been rising dramatically.

In 2014, there were 7.6 violent
incidents per 1,000 residents.

By 2023, that figure rose to 16.

It's right around BC's violent
crime rate of 15.6 per 1,000 residents
but it represents an increase of 103%
in 10 years.

In 2023, there were 547 cases
of violent crime on the Coast which
includes homicide, attempted murder,
sexual and non-sexual assault, sexual
offences against children, abduction,
forcible confinement or kidnapping,
firearms, robbery, criminal harass-
ment, extortion, uttering threats, in-
decent or harassing communications,
and other violent offences.

Some say that they don't feel
safe in Sechelt — especially after 5
p.m. when the zombies shuffle out.

The District of Sechelt's num-
bers, extracted from the totals above,
show 20.5 violent incidents per 1,000
residents — up 122% from 2014.

Up in the city of Powell River
(excluding the surrounding quathet
Regional District), the rate of vio-
lent offences rose 79% from 13.4 per
1,000 residents in 2014 to 24 in 2023.

For comparison Squamish had
17.5 violent incidents per 1,000 resi-
dents in 2023, Sooke 15.8, Port Hardy
66.6, Prince Rupert 48.9, Ucluelet
21.6 and West Vancouver 8.4.

When it comes to crime, Sech-
elt is an overachiever — the general
crime rate, the number of criminal
code offences (excluding traffic)
reported for every 1,000 persons in
Sechelt rose 119% from 53.7 in 2014
to 117.7 in 2023, well above BC's
crime rate of 74.

While BC's numbers have re-
mained relatively flat, on the Sunshine
Coast overall, general crime rose from
39.5 per 1,000 in 2014 to 51.9 in 2023
— a 31.4% increase.

The statistics show we're still
one of the safest places in BC but if
it's true that numbers don't lie, then
that could be changing.

PENDER HARBOUR WOODEN BOAT SHOW (3 DAYS): Friday, Aug. 8 - 10

It's back! A three-day celebration of Pender Harbour's maritime history. On Friday, a community boat parade kicks off the weekend. All welcome (muster off Madeira Park government wharf at 5 p.m.). The tour of Pender Harbour starts at 5:30 p.m. The next day starts at 8 a.m. at the Madeira Park government wharf with breakfast sandwiches available ahead of displays, music, fascinating speakers, a sailing regatta, kids' mini-boat building — all from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. On Sunday, enjoy more of the same plus crafting, a tailgate sale, canoe raffle draw and more from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PENDER HARBOUR MUSIC SOCIETY COFFEE HOUSE: Friday, Aug. 8, 7:30 p.m.

The P. H. Music Society presents this month's School of Music Coffee House on Friday, Aug. 8. The musicians this month are Hot Java and Ken Johnson and Edmund Arceo. Doors at the Pender Harbour School of Music open at 7 p.m. and music starts at 7:30 p.m. There is a suggested \$10 donation for entry.

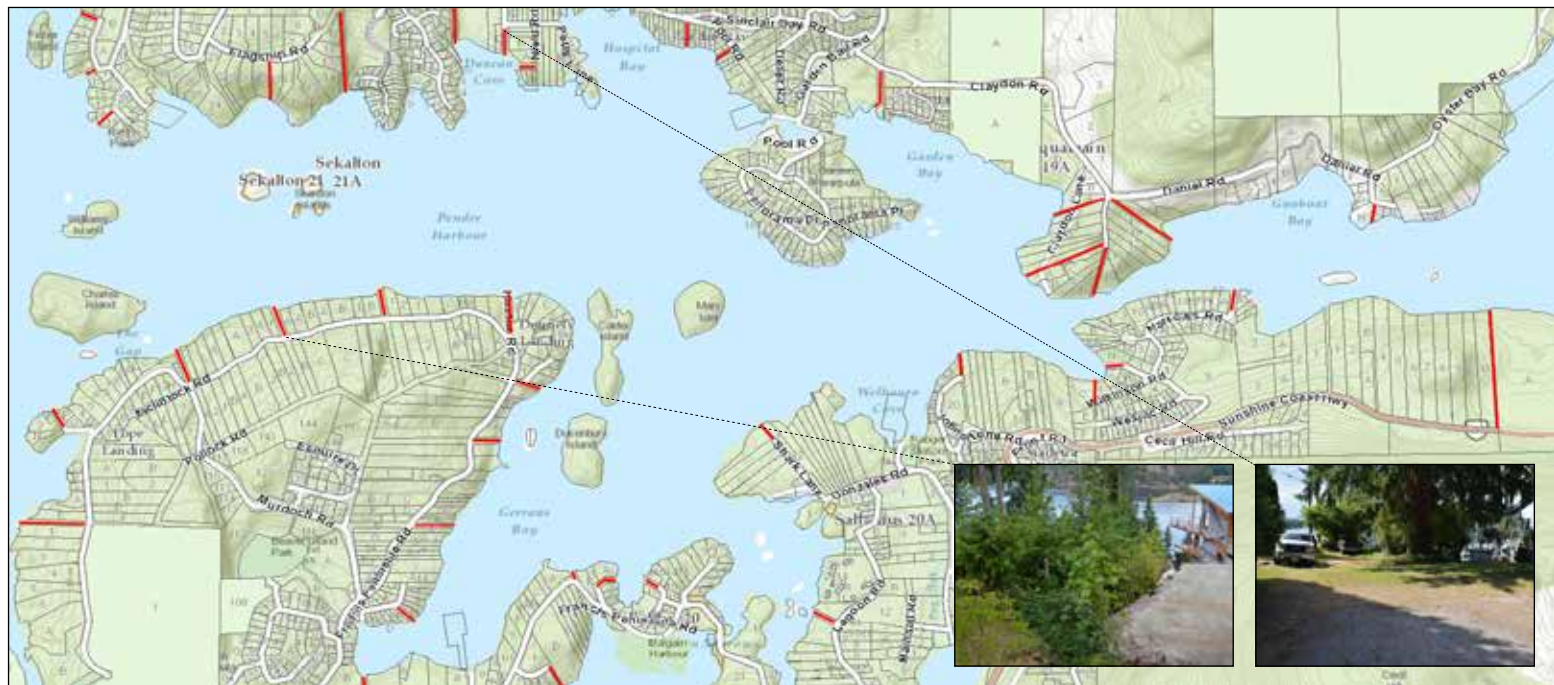
PENDER HARBOUR ROTARY SHOW AND SHINE: Sunday, Aug. 10, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Celebrating 20 years this year, the Rotary Club of Pender Harbour's annual "show and shine" includes gorgeous cars, trucks and motorcycles on display at the Royal Canadian Legion 112 in Madeira Park. There will be plenty of food available, a 50/50 draw and don't forget to take part in voting for "people's choice" awards. Starting at 2 p.m. live music will entertain the crowd in the Legion thanks to Sunshine Coast band Spindrift.

RETHINK, REUSE COMMUNITY ART EVENT: Sunday, Aug. 17, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come experience creative workstations and make your own practical or decorative art pieces to take home out of waste. Also take part in a communal art piece, the "Orca." Learn and share information about reducing landfill use through practicing "rethink and reuse" strategies. At Tranquillity Gardens (behind Earthfair Store in Madeira Park).

locally



SCRD base map/Brian Lee graphic and image

This map is a rough representation of some of the undeveloped Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure road ends (in red) that offer potential public access to local beaches within Pender Harbour. Most are unmarked and may even be 'adopted' by adjacent landowners to blend in with private property. The inset photos are examples of two 66-foot wide road ends on Francis Peninsula (l) and in Garden Bay (r). For more detailed property information, visit www.scrd.ca/mapping/.

Wild fire along hydro lines near Homesite Creek now out

A wildfire that broke out along the BC Hydro transmission lines west of Homesite Creek July 16 was listed as held by the next day.

Two days later the 0.95 hectare fire was “under control”— a wildfire that is not projected to spread beyond the current perimeter.

BC Wildfire Service crews were still dousing hot spots from the fire on July 18 while hydro crews worked nearby.

On their website, the BC Wildfire Service indicated the cause of the fire is still under investigation.

By press time, this fire was out and there were no active fires listed on the BC Wildfire Service website for the Sunshine Coast.



Brian Lee

On July 18, BC Wildfire crews could be seen mopping up the last hot spots of a fire that started two days earlier on this BC Hydro corridor west of Homesite Creek.

Total burning ban now in effect on the Sunshine Coast

As of July 17, all fires, including campfires, are prohibited until further notice.

This includes all fires, whether for warmth or cooking, and all beach fires.

In addition to open fires being prohibited, the following activities and equipment are also restricted:

- Fireworks as defined in the Fireworks Act;
- Binary exploding targets;
- Sky lanterns;
- Wood-fired hot tubs, wood-fired pizza ovens and other wood-fired devices unless vented through a structure that has a flue and is incorporated in a building;

• Burn barrels or burn cages of any size or description;

- Controlled air incinerators;
- Air curtain burners, and
- Carbonizers.

The campfire prohibition does not apply to cooking stoves that use gas, propane or briquettes, or portable campfire devices that use briquettes, liquid, or gaseous fuel, provided they are CSA or ULC approved, and the height of the flame is less than 15 centimetres.

Fires are prohibited throughout

the Coastal Fire Centre, excluding the Haida Gwaii Forest District and the portion of the Central Coast Regional District that falls within the North Island Central Coast Forest District.

This ban will be in place until Oct. 31 or until the order is rescinded.

Anyone found in contravention of an open fire prohibition may be issued a violation ticket for \$1,150, required to pay an administrative penalty of up to \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, fined up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail.

CLARIFICATION: In a story from the July 2025 issue, ‘P. H. Paddling Society gives up its dragon boat,’ the club also disposed of a 10-man dragon boat in addition to the 20-man dragon boat and outrigger listed. Apologies for the omission.




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Muriel Cameron becomes a centenarian

Muriel Cameron will celebrate her 100th birthday on Aug. 16.

Cameron has lived her entire life in Pender Harbour and still lives on the Madeira Park property that she has called home for close to 80 years.

She is the daughter of Charles and Margaret Wray and granddaughter of pioneers John and Sarah Wray.

She attended Irvine's Landing School until Grade 8 before attending the Pender Harbour Superior School.

She was the first graduate of the superior (or secondary) School in Pender Harbour — the first one ever and also the only one in her class.

Following graduation, she worked at a store in Irvine's Landing for three years before getting married to Bill Cameron.

In 1948, she began volunteering with the Pender Harbour Community Club and has held many positions including treasurer, bazaar co-ordinator, bingo and dance organizer.

For over 30 years, she sold goods at the monthly Madeira Park swap meet and donated the proceeds from her sales back to the PHCC.

Cameron has also volunteered at the Bargain Barn for the past 30 years to help fund the P. H. Health Centre.

In 2012, Cameron was awarded the prestigious Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for volunteerism.

Over 80 people attended a presentation at the community hall on Jan. 12, 2013 to celebrate her award.

At the presentation, Sunny Charboneau recalled a story in which members of the P. H. Community Club were frustrated with highways crews for not fixing a dangerous pot-hole in front of the community hall.

"Then one day I was looking out the window and I see this lady with rollers in her hair — she usually has



Devon Cameron

Muriel Cameron in a recent photo enjoying the sunshine.

rollers in her hair, she must have a terrible hairdresser — a bucket and a bag," said Charboneau, her hairdresser.

"Later, I found out Muriel took a bucket of rocks, a bag of cement and she fixed the hole. Shame on us."

In 2019, she was awarded a lifetime achievement award from the P. H. and Area Residents Association in recognition of her 70-plus years of volunteering in Pender Harbour.

These days, Cameron takes life a little slower.

According to her granddaughter Devon Ross, Cameron enjoys visits with family, playing cards and watching the Toronto Maple Leafs.

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Brian Lee

The *MS Koningsdam* is seen here heading north up Sabine Channel on July 5. The *Koningsdam* is a Pinnacle-class cruise ship operated by Holland America Line, a division of Carnival Corp. Two years after the first steel was cut in Feb. 2014 to begin construction, she was delivered to HAL in March 2016 and began operating the following month. At 99,863 gross tonnes, she became the largest ship ever commissioned for HAL upon her delivery. The ship measures 300 metres in length with a 35 metre beam and hosts 1,331 passenger cabins across 12 decks. There are also 588 crew cabins for a maximum capacity of 4,173 passengers and crew. A seven-day return trip cruising the Inside Passage with stops in Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan, Alaska, departs Vancouver on Sept. 20 and costs \$1,615 per person.

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Water conservation regulations move to stage 2 in South Pender

South Pender Harbour (Madeira Park) is now on Stage 2 water restrictions.

Effective July 11 and until further notice, the Sunshine Coast Regional District has declared Stage 2 water conservation regulations for water users on the Chapman (including Soames and Granthams), South Pender Harbour and Eastbourne water systems.

All other systems will remain at stage 1 water conservation regulations until further notice.

STAGE 2 WATERING SCHEDULE

Watering lawns is not permitted.

A sprinkler or soaker hose or micro-spray can be used two days per week to water trees, shrubs or flowers.

Even-numbered addresses can

water Thursdays and Sundays from 7 to 9 a.m.

Odd-numbered addresses can water Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7 to 9 a.m.

Hand-held hoses with nozzle, hand-held containers or drip-irrigation can be used four hours per day from 7 to 9 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

For watering food-producing plants and trees, a sprinkler, soaker hose or micro-spray can be used two days per week:

- Even-numbered addresses on Thursdays and Sundays from 7 to 9 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., and

- Odd-numbered addresses on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7 to 9 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

Hand-held hoses with nozzle, hand-held containers or drip-irrigation

can be used any time.

Washing vehicles or boats is permitted with a container, hand-held hose with nozzle or commercial car washes.

Washing sidewalks and driveways, windows, fences or exterior building surfaces is permitted only for preparing surfaces for painting or paving and for health and safety regulations.

Filling swimming pools, spas, garden ponds or fountains is still permitted.

SCRD staff do not take bylaw complaints by phone.

Bylaw complaints can be submitted by using the online form at www.scrd.ca/bylaw-complaint-form.

Visit www.scrd.ca/water-regulations for further details.

Food waste drop-off program is back on

On June 23, the Sunshine Coast Regional District announced the “food waste drop-off pilot program” at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station has returned, effective immediately.

“Food waste is recyclable and throwing it in the garbage not only increases the release of greenhouse gases but also reduces the usable space in the Sechelt Landfill,” said the SCRD, in a statement.

“There are regulations in place that require food waste and other recyclables to be separated from garbage.”

On May 1, the SCRD announced that the program at the PHTS was suspended due to a lack of private contractors bidding on the service.

“The main reason the program was discontinued is that not enough people took part in it, making it too expensive to keep running,” said Marc Sole, manager of solid waste services.

“The fees collected were only covering 25 per cent of the costs which is not enough to sustain the service.”

Since Oct. 2022, the SCRD has required Sunshine Coast residents to separate food waste, food-soiled paper and paper (printed paper and paper boxes) from their garbage.

Visit www.scrd.ca/transfer-station and “what to know before you go” for tips about what is accepted.



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- Modified Texas Scramble (P. H. Golf Course)
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Register at the Legion in Madeira Park.

Will our corporate plan work?



*Leonard Lee
Area A director, SCRD*

Capital projects aim to build, enhance, and maintain major assets so that we can enjoy amenities such as adequate potable water, solid waste disposal, firefighting capabilities, parks enhancements, etc.

But we're only getting approximately 30 per cent of these projects done on time because our business units operate in silos, often leaving projects understaffed and sometimes missing deadlines by years.

Our new corporate work plan aims to break the silo mindset, support collaboration and work towards a long-term vision.

This listed projects by priority but some, left without funding, weren't scheduled for 2025.

Of 121 projects listed "above the line," 105 are of interest to Area A as either local infrastructure or partially funded by us.

The SCRD is committed to ensuring alignment with taxpayers' interests, maintaining ethical business practices and conducting open communication with all stakeholders.

Quarterly corporate and departmental workplans, available to the public, provide a clear assessment of which initiatives are advancing, which require further decisions and how organizational capacity is allocated.

All the measures are in place for our work plan to work, and early indications say that things are improving,

but the jury is still out until the next budget, which will tell the tale.

WATER SUPPLY STRATEGY

Our water projects are broadly based on multiple strategies such as the comprehensive regional water plan (2013), Area A master plan (2011), North Pender Harbour 10-year waterworks upgrading plan (2012) and the Pender Harbour 10-year waterworks upgrading plan (2011).

These plans, now well beyond their best-before date, led to a project to see them consolidated and updated into a single water master plan.

This will detail the technical, operational and financial actions and practices required to meet the water needs for all SCRD water services over the next 10 years.



Sunshine Coast Regional District

www.scrd.ca info@scrd.ca

Egmont / Pender Harbour
Area A Director Leonard Lee
leonard.lee@scrd.ca
604-212-0406



LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

We want your input on the Sunshine Coast Regional District's Official Community Plan (OCP) renewal.

What should our neighbourhoods, parks, roads, and communities look like in the future? How should we respond to climate impacts? This plan will guide how the region grows and changes — and you get to help shape it.

Share your thoughts in our short questionnaire:
letstalk.scrd.ca/ocp-renewal

Food waste drop-off is now available again at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station. Before you go, visit www.scrd.ca/transfer-station to see what's accepted.

Remember to separate food waste from garbage.

Tip: use paper bags or your freezer to reduce odours. BPI-certified compostable bags are also accepted.

MINOR ADJUSTMENTS TO RECREATION FEES

We are implementing minor adjustments to recreation drop-in admission fees, passes, and rental fees, effective **August 1, 2025**. This is the first increase to drop-in admission and pass fees in over ten years.

Key Changes Effective August 1, 2025:

- **Drop-in Admission Fees:** All drop-in admission fees will increase by approximately 15 to 35 cents per person. For example:
 - The adult aquatic and fitness drop-in rate will increase from \$7.00 to **\$7.35**.
 - The adult ice skate drop-in will increase from \$5.50 to **\$5.80**.
 - The low-cost facility admission will increase from \$3.00 to **\$3.15**.

More information about the fee changes, can be found at www.scrd.ca/fees-and-passes

The first step in developing a detailed plan is to agree on an overall strategy to bridge the gap between “where we are” and “where we want to be.”

The draft 2025-2035 water strategy, presented in 2024, had no specific objectives included, but such objectives are necessary to confirm the service levels the SCRD is aiming for in terms of supply capacity and help guide the design requirements of the supporting infrastructure.

Last month, we updated our capacity objectives to reflect an average residential monthly use of 750 litres per property throughout a dry summer, which would mean implementation of only Stage 1 or Stage 2 restrictions, and ensure the system can supply 350 litres per property in an emergency.

These objectives might be not yet realistic for the Egmont, Cove Cay, and Eastbourne systems, but North and South Pender has a project on the books to provide two-way emergency back-up.

SOUTH PENDER HARBOUR WATER PROBLEMS CONTINUE

Until further notice, Stage 2 water conservation is in effect for South Pender Harbour water service users as daily use is even higher than last year and leakage exceeds the licensed diversion rate.

I urge everyone to do their part by addressing water leaks on their property and honouring restrictions or we could face Stage 3 restrictions, which occurred in the 2023 drought.

There are no physical limitations to get water from Harris Lake to McNeill Lake as required, but our water licence allows only emergency use during a drought.

A South Pender Harbour water supply analysis to confirm the feasibility of amending that water licence by 2026 would be followed by technical assessments and be subject to a regulatory process that could take several years.

Meanwhile, our North Pender, Cove Cay and Egmont water systems will remain at Stage 1 regulations.

FRANCIS PENINSULA WATERMAIN PROJECT

The 2025 South Pender Harbour watermain replacement project, to replace and upgrade approximately 580 metres of asbestos cement pipes along Francis Peninsula Road from Pope Road to Rondevue Road, was bumped from “to do” to “urgent priority” after a large break in March.

We obtained an expedited permit for required archeological assessments, a contractor was hired for excavation work and an SCRD crew installed the pipe.

We decommissioned and replaced asbestos cement piping of 150 millimetre diameter with 200 millimetre diameter ductile iron piping to address the structural vulnerability and limited capacity of the old pipe and to enhance fire-flow capacity to improve fire protection capability in the area.

The recent upgrade represents approximately 350 metres of the originally proposed 580 metres requiring

upgrades and we can expect a 2026 budget proposal for a minimum to replace the remaining 230 meters of watermain.

Since the \$600,000 budget, drawn up in 2022, materials and labour costs increased by over 20 per cent and last month we recommended increasing the budget for recently completed work so that we can procure paving services before year-end.

CONTACT ME

Email leonard.lee@scrd.ca or call/text (604) 212-0406 about SCRD issues that matter to you.



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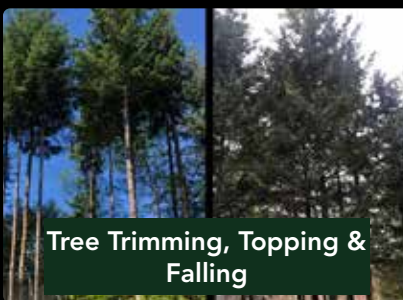
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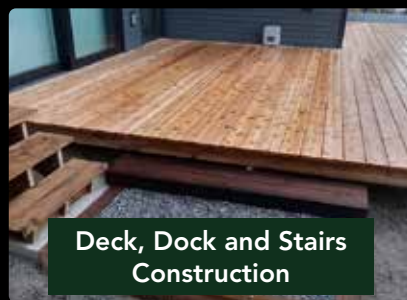
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✉ ftpm_c@yahoo.com

White: Conversation about Aboriginal title should be province-wide

Editor,

I was fortunate to have time this past beautiful weekend to visit my dad for a boat ride in salalus/Pender Harbour and go for lunch at the Hopper first, where I happened upon your publication boldly hosting a conversation that should be happening province-wide.

Thank you for your “What is Aboriginal title?” June editorial.

In the next issue, a reader made a couple good points I agreed with, but harshly dismissed your piece as “fear-mongering” that “serves no one’s interests.”

To the contrary, I found it to be

a well-researched and informative consideration of the state of rights and title in Canadian courts and policy.

It took an angle that was evidently provocative (editorials usually do), but if I can engage in my own fear-mongering for a second, when I look around in the world, what I’m most afraid of are the consequences of shutting down concerns from “the heartland.”

Therefore I offer great praise and admiration to hereditary hiwus Calvin Craigan for his response to you on the same July letters page.

He is bang on that the primary goal and “greater good” needs to be

the people who live here working together, planning together and supporting our children and grandchildren going to school together.

To the “oil and water” point you quoted about the application of rights and title, let’s acknowledge that this has also been the case in reverse the past few centuries.

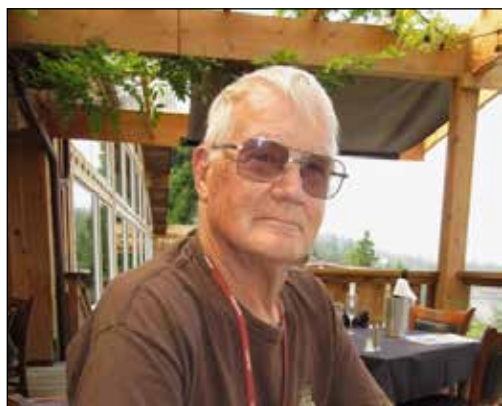
So again, I commend you for initiating this hard public conversation, and hiwus Craigan for articulating a unifying, community-based vision that does not need to be “oil and water” doused upon us by Victoria and Ottawa.

Silas White

obituary

Ian Glaisby Wright

SEPTEMBER 15, 1935 — APRIL 23, 2025



Ian Wright, born in 1935 in Fredericton, NB, died April 23 in Garden Bay.

He is survived by Fay, his wife of 66 years, their three sons Graham, Bruce and Christopher, niece Heather, nephew Kevin, sister Jennifer and her children and grandchildren.

Wright also grew up in Vancouver after 1946 and earned a BA in chemistry from the University of British Columbia, and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1965.

A Sea Scout in youth, Wright worked for Eli Lilly in Indianapolis for 28 years, most notably on the development of the antibiotic cephaclor.

He took to windsurfing on the Indiana reservoirs, and represented Canada well in the Perry Park rink’s hockey league despite not knowing how to skate until he got there.

Sister Jen recalls epic bike rides, playing blocks and battleship and Monopoly, Ian building a wooden horse, a rowboat, a terrarium for her snake.

His three sons are grateful to Fay and Ian for all they did for them growing up — taking them to caves, canyons, parks, mountaintops, museums, planetariums, arboretums and on epic camping trips — to say nothing of the rescues and paying for college.

Wright was a man of science, but the hands-on kind, working at the lab bench his whole career.

He used his chemist’s glass-

blowing skills to make figurines and made numerous wooden toys, furniture, tree houses and the like.

He volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, and continued that after moving back to the Sunshine Coast in retirement in 1999.

He volunteered for the Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue and served nearly 20 years.

He lived the Scout motto, “a scout’s duty is to make himself useful and help others,” as his creed.

One of the things he often said to his sons was, “Why don’t you find something constructive to do?”

That was second only to “If you want to fight, go outside.”

Wright aimed to make himself useful even to the last, donating his body to science at UBC.

Donations in his honour can be made to RCMSAR 61, www.rcmsar61.ca.

Sunshine Coast writers' fest: There's still tix for three top picks

*Biographies from Sunshine Coast
Festival of the Written Arts program*

It's not too late to get tickets for some of the talent appearing at the 43rd Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts Aug. 14 to 17.

The SCFWA was founded in 1983 by Betty Keller and members of the SunCoast Writers Forge.

The festival has grown to a nationally recognized event that attracts writers from across the country and an audience of 7,000 over the course of four evenings and three days.

Celebrating its 43rd year this year, the SCFWA still holds true to the vision of its founders — to produce an annual literary festival featuring writers in Canada exclusively.

The following are three shows with seats available that promise an entertaining and thought-provoking experience at Sechelt's Rockwood Centre.

But hurry — they will likely sell out before opening night on Aug. 14.

Check writersfestival.ca for event schedules and tickets.

HOLLY HOGAN

Friday, Aug. 15, 1 p.m.

Holly Hogan's newest book, *Message in a Bottle*, was a finalist for the Governor General's literary award for non-fiction in 2023 and won the 2023 BMO Winterset award.



Holly Hogan

Hogan is a writer and wildlife biologist with a focus on seabirds.

During her more than 30 years as a scientist, she has spent about 1,000 days at sea

conducting avian and marine mammal surveys and providing educational programming with expedition teams.



Her work has taken her to the Arctic and Southern oceans and every latitude in between.

She has been interviewed for CBC Radio, appears in a National Film Board series called "Ocean School" and provided expertise on seabirds and the impact of marine plastic for the award-winning documentary "Hell or Clean Water" (2021).

Hogan is a mother of three and lives in St. John's, NL, with her hus-



band, Michael and an assortment of cats and dogs, depending on the day.

EDDY BOUDEL TAN

Sunday, Aug. 17, 9 a.m.

Eddy Boudel Tan's newest book, *The Tiger and the Cosmonaut*, is a noirish page-turner about a mysterious disappearance.

It's also a moving portrait of a Chinese Canadian family navigating insecurities and simmering anger in their small town near the Sunshine Coast.



Eddy Boudel Tan

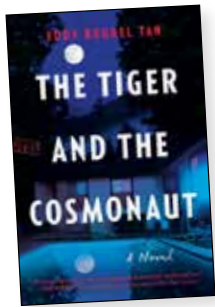
With a story that examines how immigrant families are exploited by society, Tan will share how he used elements of mystery to disguise his book about race and class.

Tan has been a finalist for the

Edmund White award, the ReLit best novel award and the Ferro-Grumley award for his novels *After Elias* and *The Rebellious Tide*.

He was named a “rising star” by Writers’ Trust of Canada in 2021.

His short stories can be found in “Joyland,” “Yolk” and various literary journals and anthologies.



The Tiger and the Cosmonaut from Penguin Canada is Tan’s third

novel.

TIMOTHY CAULFIELD
Sunday, Aug. 17, 4 p.m.

Timothy Caulfield’s newest book, *The Certainty Illusion: What You Don’t Know and Why It Matters*, lifts the curtain on the forces contributing to our information chaos and unpacks why it’s so difficult — sometimes even for experts — to escape the fake.

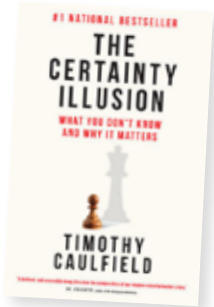


Timothy Caulfield

is a professor in the Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health, and research director of

the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta.

He has published nearly 400 academic articles on topics like stem cells, genetics research ethics, the public representation of science and has won numerous academic, science



communication and writing awards.

Caulfield’s previous books include *The Cure for Everything*, *The Science of Celebrity* and *Relax*.



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Gary Park

NOVEMBER 21, 1943 — JUNE 6, 2025



Gary Park, beloved husband of Elaine Park (née Verbicky), died at Foothills Medical Centre on Friday, June 6 at the age of 81 years.

Born in Oamaru, New Zealand, Park was the only child of Archibald John Giffen (Dick) Park and Daisy Park (née Staniford).

After attending Waitaki Boys High School in Oamaru, he began a lifelong career in journalism at the age of 15, as a junior reporter at the *Oamaru Mail*.

He loved cricket, rugby, tennis, golf and athletics, and this passion for sports led to a position at the *Otago Daily Times* as an athletics writer.

There, Park covered the New Zealand track and field team on its tour of the world in 1967 and won the New Zealand Journalists' Association Balm award for outstanding journalism in 1968.

His world trip lit a desire for what young Kiwis of the sixties called "O.E." (overseas experience).

He reported from the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico, then travelled north hoping for a job in Canada.

He found one at *The Albertan* in Calgary.

Soon the *Calgary Herald* hired him to cover city hall.

He relished the energy of municipal politics during the creation of the great legacy parks — Nose Hill and Fish Creek — and the building of the first stages of the LRT.

In 1973, he won the Dr. F. P. Galbraith scholarship for journalists from the University of Alberta and spent a year studying urban planning, political science and the history of urban development.

He took his bride, Elaine, home to New Zealand in 1974 and worked as a press officer in the health department of the national government for two years.

Returning to Calgary, he rejoined the *Calgary Herald* newsroom where he held a variety of editorial positions and encouraged a team of aspiring writers.

As a father to Andrew and Ian, he enjoyed seeing his sons learn soccer and was gratified when Ian became deeply involved in squash at the Calgary Winter Club.

The day his son beat him on the court, however, left him with mixed feelings.

After retirement to Pender Harbour, Park continued writing as a freelance contributor to *Petroleum News Alaska*.

Park got a kick out of taking down and putting up again the doors at the Pender Harbour School of Mu-

sic with fellow volunteers in order to prepare for community events.

In 2019, he and Elaine again returned to Calgary.

Predeceased by his parents, Park is survived by his wife, his sons, Andrew of Vancouver and Ian (Heather) of Calgary, and by his cherished granddaughters, Avery, Lydia and Madelyn Park of Calgary.

He is also missed by his Verbicky brothers-in-law, David and Matthew (Rhonda) and sisters-in-law, Marilyn Zweifel (David) and Eleanor Verbicky-Todd (Nick) as well as nieces, Martha and Sophia Zweifel, Sophie Verbicky and Adrienne Todd, nephews David Zweifel and Neil Todd and Joe Verbicky.

A celebration of Park's life was held in Calgary on June 17 and streamed live at www.MHFFH.com.

For those who are unable to view live, a recording of the service will be posted.

OBITUARIES: The *Harbour Spiel* publishes obituaries without charge to recognize and record those who lived in Pender Harbour and Egmont. Submissions must be timely, include the date of birth and date of death and be submitted in a digital format. All submissions will be edited for length and adherence to Canadian Press style and to remove first-person and personal messages as required to maintain editorial consistency.

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THE SKOOK

Locals have long considered the Sechelt Rapids to be either a sublime spot to show off to visitors or a hazard to navigation. The rapids are more commonly known as the Skookumchuck — Chinook jargon for “strong water.” They are formed by a narrow channel that funnels 200 billion gallons into Sechelt Inlet during an average tidal period.

There’s been a dispute for years as to whether the Skookumchuck or the Nakwakto Rapids on the central coast is North America’s — and probably the world’s — fastest salt water tidal rapid. In the last few years, the title seems to have been granted to the Chuck which can reach up to 20 knots during a strong ebb.

Records aside, the real draw for visitors is the perfect standing wave that occurs over a bedrock shelf just off Roland Point during flood tides of five metres or more. Because of it, the Skookumchuck Rapids have become the premiere destination for the sport of tidal whitewater kayaking.

The wave is best during a flood, or incoming, tide and when the current reaches 12-13 knots to produce a perfect three-metre foam pile. What makes the wave special is that, aside from its characteristic size, the wave maintains a perfect shape and consistency of form that makes it ideal for free-style kayaking. Kayakers take turns carving and practicing aerial maneuvers on the main wave before exiting to furiously paddle for the backeddy that wraps around Roland

Point. Missing it usually means taking the “tour,” an exhausting one kilometre paddle that often requires a pullout and rest at the end before attempting the wave again.

The “Skook,” as it’s also known, is a class V wave and is one of only two waves like it in the world. Class V refers to the level of difficulty (or danger) rated on the International Scale of River Difficulty, a standardized scale used to rate the safety of a stretch of whitewater. Class V is the second highest level of difficulty and is assumed to include serious risk to the paddler with larger, violent features that often includes less predictable flows.

The tidal flow is strongest every two weeks after full moons and new moons because the sea rises and falls farther. When this coincides with a long weekend, you can expect 30-40 kayakers all waiting for their turn to ride the 10-metre wide wave.




Skookumchuck Narrows Provincial Park is a 123-hectare wilderness area established in 1957 to protect and provide access to the natural wonder. To reach the Skookumchuck, visitors can hike a fairly flat and easy four-kilometre (approximately one hour) trail leading from the parking lot in Egmont to the prime viewing area at Roland Point. A standing wave (and kayakers) appear on a large flood tide (flowing into the inlet) while the massive whirlpools are best viewed during an ebb tide (flowing out of the inlet).

For best viewing times, see p. 36.

Look here first.

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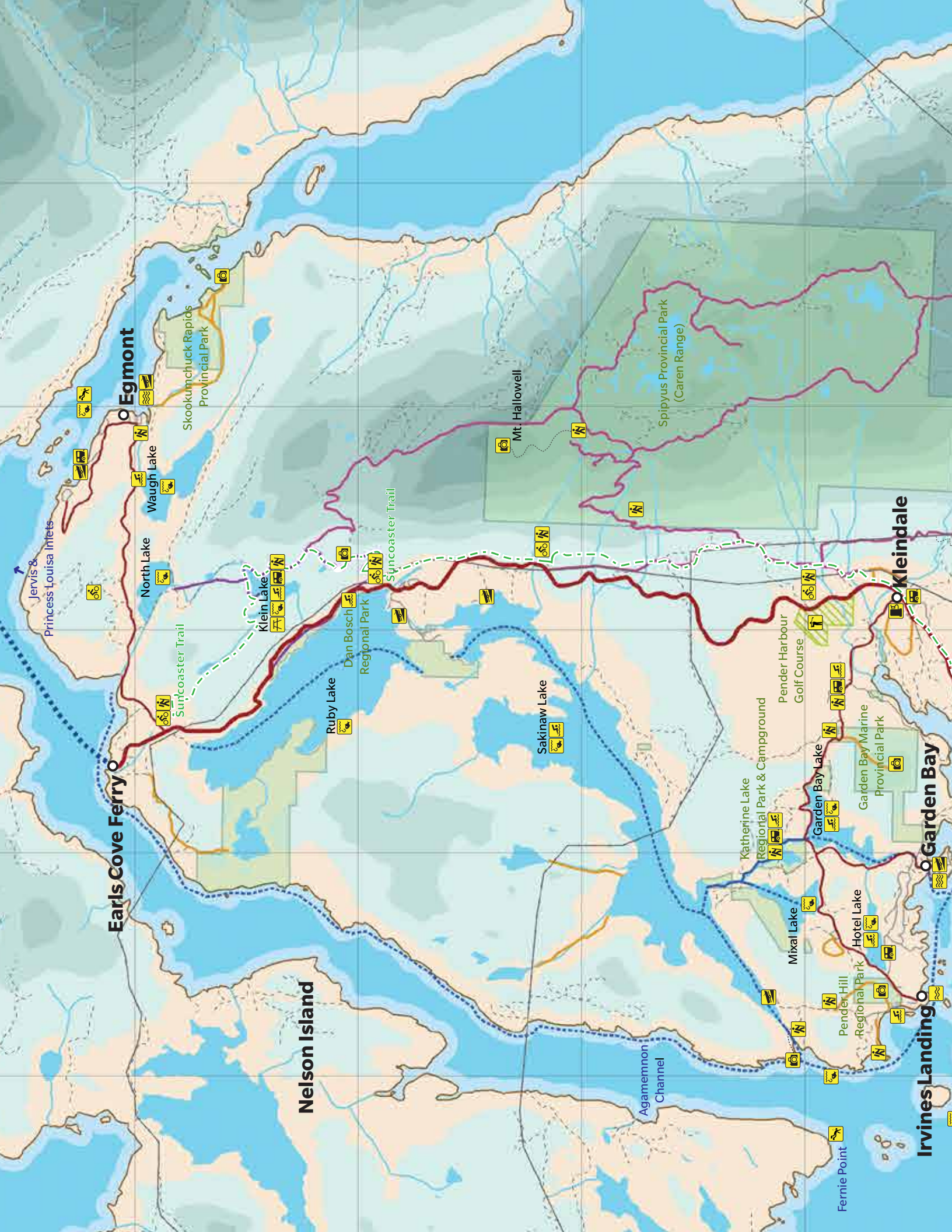
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Dan Bosch Regional Park

Sakinaw Lake

Mt. Hallowell

Agamemnon Channel

Katherine Lake

Mixal Lake

Garden Bay Lake

Hotel Lake

Garden Bay Marine Provincial Park

Pender Harbour Golf Course

Regional Park & Campground

Pender Hill Regional Park

Irvin's Landing

Garden Bay

Kleindale

Spipyus Provincial Park (Caren Range)

North Lake

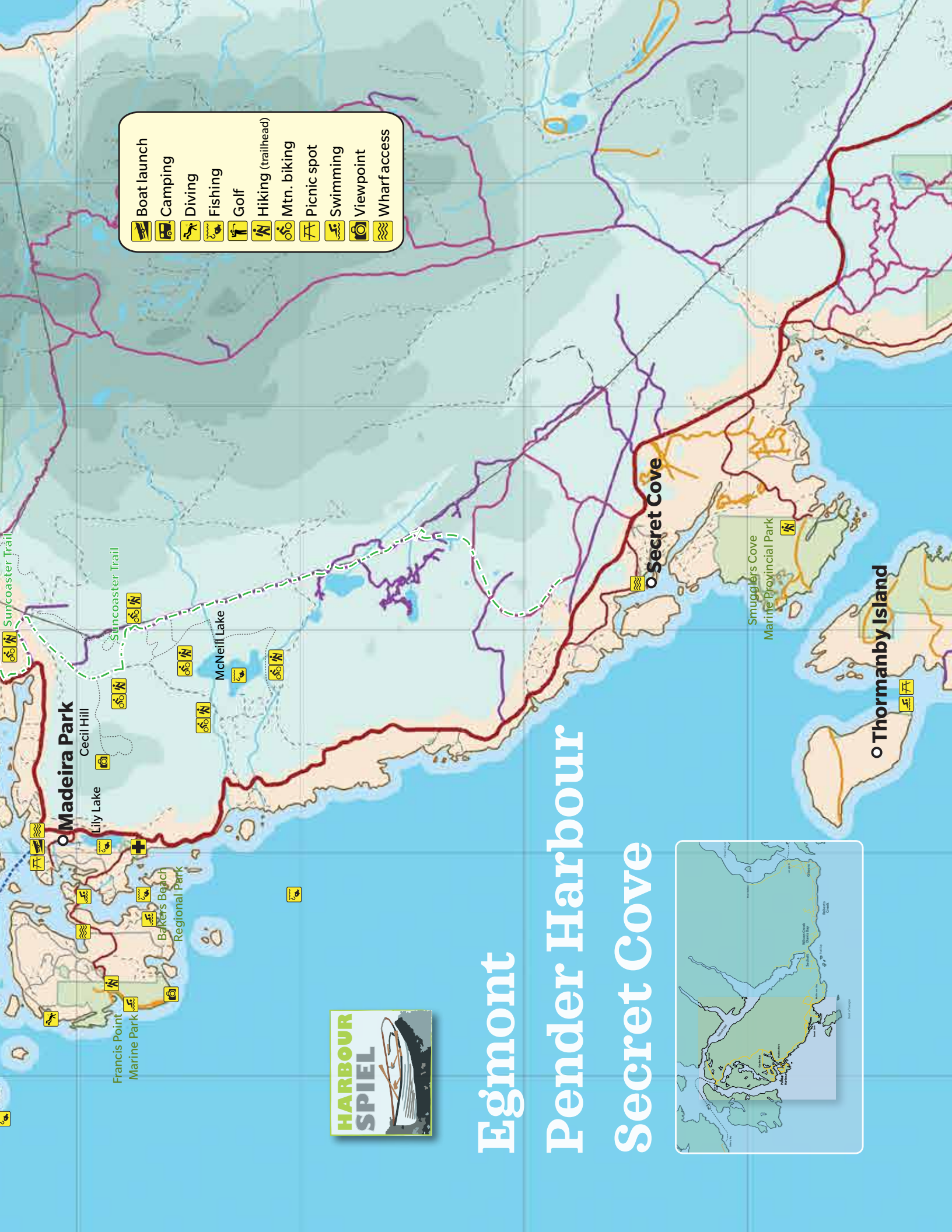
Waugh Lake

Klein Lake

Skookumchuck Rapids Provincial Park

Princess Louisa Inlets

Jervis Bay



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PHSS Grad 2025

Brian Lee photos



JULIEN WIESE



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Dusty Blundell



LAURN BYCHKOWSKY (L)
Madisyn Bychkowsky



ROSS CORMAN (L)
Kelton Nichols



TYLER MATTHEUS BASHA (L)
Kaitlynn Campbell



KYLIE HALVORSON (L)
Cole Halvorson



DESTIN LEBLANC (L)
Kaden Kelly



SHAYE BLAKE (R)
Kaya Purnell



BEN ELLERTON (L)
John McLeod



PAIGE FROCKLAGE (L)
Brooklyn Frocklage



KIARA CHAPMAN (L)
Kaveha Chapman



Kwayimin Andy Johnson, shíshálh Nation cultural ambassador, leads a procession for the 'Welcome song.'



Class of 2025 speaker Lauryn Bychkowsky.



Invited guest speaker, Janice Evans.



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matters*

Pender Harbour Health Centre hosts open house: Join us on August 22!

The Pender Harbour Health Centre board of directors and leadership are excited to announce that on Friday, August 22, they will be hosting our "Summer Open House" at the Health Centre.

To launch the open house, we will be having the Grand Opening of our newly renovated Primary Care Wing and there will be opportunities for the community to tour this renovated space and see the upgrades for themselves after the ceremony.

As part of the ceremony, we will be acknowledging the Mey family, Sunshine Coast Health-care Auxiliary and the community donors who made this renovation a possibility.

Also, at the open house event there will be an opportunity to connect with PHHC leadership and staff and our health care partners.

The agenda for the open house is as follows:

- 11 – 11.30am – Welcoming and launch of the open house event.

- 11.30am – 12.30pm – Grand opening of the Primary Care Wing – including speeches and ribbon cutting.

- 12.30pm – 3pm – Full open house – information tables from staff, partners and tenants, tours of the Primary Care Wing and PHHC.

At the open house we will have door prizes for those in attendance and refreshments will be available.

A shuttle will be provided by the Pender Harbour Seniors Link bus service — please look out for a schedule to follow on the website and Facebook.

We are asking those attending the open house to park in the lower car park given limited parking.

We are excited to host this open house, and we look forward to you joining us for this event.

~ PHHC fundraising and
communications Committee

Better at Home hosts more 'Conversations in the Woods'

Conversations in the Woods, hosted by the Pender Harbour Better at Home program, returns for August and September with a twist. At our upcoming events we will be joined by guitarist and vocalist Nancy Enns for a singalong before the regular storytelling with Haida Bolton.

The upcoming Conversations in the Woods events are scheduled for Aug. 15 and Sept. 16 from 1:30 to 3:30pm at Tyner Park. Please call Haida, our Better at Home co-ordinator, to register at 604-212-2232.





HARBOUR SPIEL

trivia

1. Where can one order the historic 'Skookum Burger?'

- ☐ a. Triple B's
- ☐ b. Ace's Grill
- ☐ c. Backeddy Pub
- ☐ d. Dan's Grill and Greens

2. In Edith Iglauer's book *Fishing With John*, what was John's last name?

- ☐ a. Robson
- ☐ b. Sinclair
- ☐ c. Duncan
- ☐ d. Daly

3. On a boat, what is the 'beam?'

- ☐ a. width of the hull
- ☐ b. length of anchor line
- ☐ c. fuel consumption/hour
- ☐ d. measure of radar reflectivity

4. What year did the Egmont school close (with students begin attending class in Madeira Park)?

- ☐ a. 1952
- ☐ b. 1962
- ☐ c. 1972
- ☐ d. 1982

5. Which of the following is NOT an invasive plant species affecting our area?

- ☐ a. Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)
- ☐ b. Devil's club (*Oplopanax horridus*)
- ☐ c. Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*)
- ☐ d. Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)

6. Which fish has a local marina named after it?

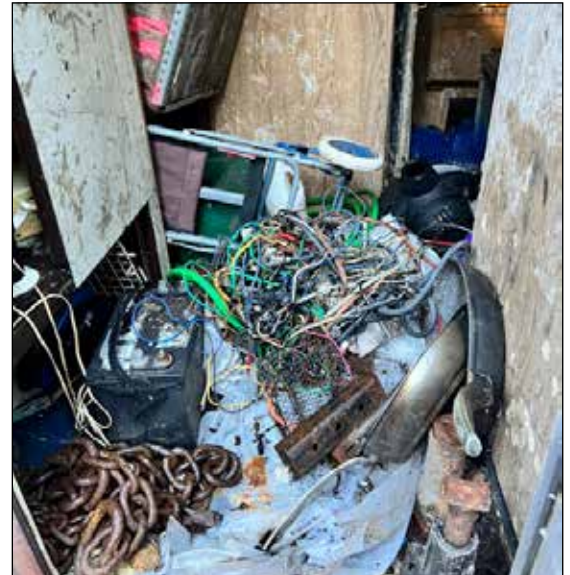
- ☐ a. Rock cod
- ☐ b. Sockeye salmon
- ☐ c. Coho salmon
- ☐ d. Dogfish

Answers: p. 42

Four-plus: **Local**

Two-plus: **Newbie**

Less than two: **Townie**



Randy Picketts

The 2025 Trash Bash was held May 3 with 28 volunteers coming out to help clean up sites from Egmont to Middlepoint. With transfer station passes from the SCRD, funding from A&A Trading and support from Don White, volunteers cleaned up this old encampment off of the Middlepoint forest service road. Because they didn't get it all on May 3, volunteers returned on June 14 to finish the job. Said organizer Randy Picketts, 'It really was a mess but now returned back to the way it should have been left.' When all done, this year's Trash Bash brought in 1,769 kilograms of garbage, 90 kilograms of metal, eight propane tanks, 15 tires and two freezers full of rotted food waste.

Happy Birthday, Marjory!



You inspire us all.
Congratulations on
your 102nd birthday
this past July!

Seniors' activities for August!

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS: Thursday drop-in, 10:30am – 1pm

In the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Lunch will be served at 12pm. Cost: \$10 pp.

August 7 – BBQ at Lions Park

August 14 – Putting at the Pender Harbour Golf Club followed by lunch at the Club House. Meet at the Golf Club at 11am

August 21 – Piano music and songs with Ken Johnson

August 28 – Speakers on Fall Programs - Gwen from the Aquatic Centre and more

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, Aug. 6, 13, 20, & 27

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall, 1-3 pm. Cost \$3.

CHAIR YOGA: Mondays & Fridays, Aug. 1, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25 & 29

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall 11am –12pm with Carole Logtenberg or Kristin Tracey. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves. Cost: \$3.

CHAIR YOGA: Wednesdays, Aug. 6, 13, 20 & 27

At the Sarah Wray Hall from 11–12pm. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves with Carole Logtenberg or Kristin Tracey. Cost: \$3.

**Seniors
Helping
Seniors**

PENDER HARBOUR SENIORS INITIATIVE

Sponsored by:
Smart Fund



HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by:
**P. H. Health Centre &
P. H. Health Auxiliary**

**FOR INFORMATION
OR TRANSPORTATION,
CALL MARLENE:
(604) 883-9900**

August Activities

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

6 HIKE OR T-DOCK
HIKE OR MEET UP AT THE T-DOCK
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DATE SPECIFIC DETAILS

13 DRIVING RANGE
1:00PM - 2:30PM
KIDS AGED 5-12
PARENTS MUST STAY WITH CHILDREN UNDER 6
COST: \$6.00

20 HIKE OR T-DOCK
HIKE OR MEET UP AT THE T-DOCK
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DATE SPECIFIC DETAILS

27 RETRO FIELD GAMES
COME PLAY A VARIETY OF OUTDOOR GAMES DOWN AT THE MPES FIELD
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE CLOSER TO THE DATE FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS. (TIME, AGE, GAMES, ETC.)

****Pender Harbour Community School will be at lake (water) events but parents are asked to drop in with their children and not leave children unattended.**

14 KIDS CLOTHING SWAP
PENDER HARBOUR LIONS CLUB HALL
4:30PM
DONATED CLOTHING MUST BE DROPPED OFF WEDNESDAY OR BEFORE 3:00PM ON THURSDAY.
CHECK FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS

**** meet ups / events are subject to change due to weather. Be sure to check our Facebook page for the most up to date information for each activity at Pender Harbour Community School Society.**

1 HIKE OR T-DOCK
HIKE OR MEET UP AT THE T-DOCK
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DATE SPECIFIC DETAILS

8 HIKE OR T-DOCK
HIKE OR MEET UP AT THE T-DOCK
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DATE SPECIFIC DETAILS

15 HIKE OR T-DOCK
HIKE OR MEET UP AT THE T-DOCK
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DATE SPECIFIC DETAILS

22 OUTDOOR MOVIE
MPES FIELD
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DATE SPECIFIC DETAILS SUCH AS MOVIE THAT WILL BE SHOWN, TIME, ETC.

29 HIKE OR T-DOCK
HIKE OR MEET UP AT THE T-DOCK
CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DATE SPECIFIC DETAILS

For more information or to register please email: Virginia@pendercommunity.ca or call 604.883.2826

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL



5012 Gonzales Road
PO Box 232
Madeira Park V0N 2H0

604.883.2826

phcs@dccnet.com

www.pendercommunity.ca
Pender Harbour Community School will be operating under reduced hours throughout July and August. Emails and voicemails will be checked regularly throughout the break.

PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

www.scrd.ca/pender-pool • 604-885-6867

The facility is closed Aug. 2 to Sept. 1 so that annual pool maintenance work can be completed. This helps extend the life of the facility and minimize unexpected closures.

Looking for options to keep swimming and dropping in to fitness during August?

In August, Sechelt and Gibsons Pools are open, and the weight rooms at Sechelt Aquatic Centre and Gibsons Community Centre are open.

ARE YOU A QUALIFIED LIFEGUARD? We will be hiring lifeguards this summer.

We are hiring lifeguards this summer. The starting wage is \$27.23 per hour. Visit www.scrd.ca/careers for details.



Important dates! Mark your calendar.

Registration for fall programs will start on Aug. 20 at 7 am. Swim lessons, Aquatic Leadership, Exercise & Fitness programs and more! Preview our fall programs starting Aug. 13. Visit www.scrd.ca/recreation-registration/ for more information.

Minor adjustments to SCRDC recreation fees – starting Aug. 1

Recreation drop-in admission fees and pass fees increased for the first time in over a decade on Aug. 1, 2025. This will help SCRDC Recreation meet increased operating costs and inflation so that we can continue delivering high quality recreation services to residents of the Sunshine Coast now and into the future. For example, the adult aquatic and fitness drop-in rate is \$7, and starting Aug. 1, it will be \$7.35. The youth MYPASS which is \$39 for a whole year will increase to \$40.95 per year – an increase of \$1.95 per year.



PENDER HARBOUR
AQUATIC & FITNESS
CENTRE

20m, 4-lane pool
hot tub, sauna, gym &
weight room

On lower level of
P. H. Secondary School:

13639 S.C. Hwy.

604-885-6867

www.scrd.ca/recreation

pender harbour tides ~ august 2025

Cooler colour codes indicate lower tides. For kayaks and small boats accessing Canoe Pass (Beaver Island), these colour codes (right) indicate what should usually provide sufficient depth for passage. Note: variability occurs due to barometric pressure, wind conditions, etc.

Canoe Pass:



August	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	Noon	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM
Fri 01	13.0	11.5	9.8	8.2	6.9	6.3	6.4	7.0	8.1	9.3	10.5	11.4	11.9	11.8	11.5	11.1	10.8	10.8	11.2	11.9	12.7	13.4	13.8	13.7
Sat 02	13.1	11.8	10.3	8.6	7.1	6.1	5.6	5.8	6.4	7.5	8.8	10.1	11.3	12.1	12.5	12.4	12.2	11.9	11.8	12.0	12.4	12.9	13.3	13.4
Sun 03	13.1	12.2	10.8	9.2	7.6	6.2	5.3	4.9	5.2	6.0	7.2	8.6	10.1	11.5	12.6	13.1	13.2	13.0	12.6	12.4	12.4	12.6	12.8	13.1
Mon 04	13.1	12.5	11.4	9.9	8.3	6.7	5.3	4.5	4.3	4.7	5.7	7.1	8.8	10.6	12.1	13.2	13.8	13.8	13.4	12.9	12.5	12.4	12.5	12.7
Tue 05	12.8	12.8	12.1	10.9	9.3	7.6	5.9	4.6	3.8	3.7	4.3	5.5	7.3	9.2	11.2	12.8	13.9	14.2	14.0	13.5	12.8	12.3	12.1	12.2
Wed 06	12.5	12.8	12.7	12.0	10.6	8.9	6.9	5.1	3.8	3.1	3.1	4.0	5.6	7.7	9.9	12.0	13.6	14.4	14.5	14.0	13.2	12.3	11.8	11.7
Thu 07	12.0	12.5	12.8	12.8	11.9	10.4	8.4	6.3	4.4	3.1	2.5	2.9	4.1	6.1	8.5	10.9	13.0	14.3	14.8	14.4	13.6	12.5	11.6	11.2
Fri 08	11.4	11.9	12.6	13.0	12.9	11.9	10.1	7.9	5.6	3.7	2.5	2.2	3.0	4.7	7.0	9.7	12.1	14.0	14.9	14.9	14.1	12.9	11.7	10.8
Sat 09	10.6	11.0	11.8	12.7	13.1	12.9	11.7	9.8	7.4	5.1	3.3	2.3	2.4	3.6	5.7	8.4	11.1	13.4	14.8	15.2	14.6	13.4	11.9	10.6
Sun 10	9.9	10.0	10.7	11.7	12.7	13.2	12.8	11.5	9.4	7.1	4.9	3.3	2.6	3.1	4.7	7.2	10.0	12.6	14.5	15.4	15.1	14.0	12.4	10.7
Mon 11	9.4	8.9	9.2	10.2	11.5	12.6	13.1	12.7	11.4	9.3	7.1	5.1	3.8	3.6	4.5	6.4	9.0	11.7	13.9	15.3	15.5	14.6	13.0	11.1
Tue 12	9.3	8.1	7.8	8.5	9.7	11.2	12.4	13.0	12.6	11.3	9.5	7.4	5.8	4.9	5.0	6.3	8.4	10.9	13.2	14.9	15.6	15.1	13.8	11.8
Wed 13	9.6	7.8	6.8	6.8	7.6	9.1	10.8	12.1	12.7	12.5	11.5	9.9	8.2	7.0	6.5	6.9	8.3	10.4	12.5	14.3	15.4	15.4	14.4	12.6
Thu 14	10.3	8.1	6.4	5.6	5.8	6.8	8.4	10.1	11.6	12.5	12.5	11.8	10.6	9.4	8.5	8.3	8.9	10.3	12.1	13.7	15.0	15.4	14.9	13.5
Fri 15	11.3	9.0	6.8	5.2	4.6	4.9	5.9	7.6	9.4	11.1	12.2	12.5	12.2	11.5	10.7	10.1	10.1	10.7	11.9	13.2	14.4	15.1	15.1	14.2
Sat 16	12.4	10.2	7.9	5.8	4.4	3.8	4.1	5.1	6.7	8.6	10.4	11.8	12.7	12.8	12.4	12.0	11.6	11.6	12.0	12.8	13.7	14.5	14.8	14.5
Sun 17	13.3	11.5	9.3	7.1	5.1	3.7	3.2	3.5	4.4	6.0	7.8	9.8	11.5	12.8	13.4	13.4	13.1	12.7	12.5	12.6	13.1	13.7	14.2	14.4
Mon 18	13.9	12.7	10.8	8.7	6.5	4.6	3.3	2.8	3.0	4.0	5.6	7.6	9.7	11.7	13.2	14.0	14.1	13.8	13.3	12.8	12.7	12.9	13.3	13.7
Tue 19	13.9	13.5	12.3	10.5	8.4	6.2	4.3	3.0	2.4	2.7	3.8	5.6	7.8	10.1	12.2	13.8	14.6	14.6	14.1	13.3	12.6	12.3	12.4	12.8
Wed 20	13.3	13.5	13.3	12.3	10.5	8.4	6.2	4.2	2.8	2.3	2.6	3.9	5.9	8.4	10.8	13.0	14.5	15.0	14.7	13.9	12.9	12.0	11.5	11.7
Thu 21	12.2	12.9	13.3	13.2	12.3	10.6	8.3	6.1	4.1	2.7	2.3	2.9	4.4	6.7	9.3	11.8	13.8	15.0	15.1	14.5	13.3	12.1	11.1	10.7
Fri 22	11.0	11.7	12.6	13.2	13.2	12.2	10.5	8.2	5.9	4.0	2.8	2.6	3.5	5.3	7.8	10.5	12.9	14.5	15.2	14.9	13.8	12.4	11.0	10.0
Sat 23	9.9	10.4	11.4	12.4	13.1	13.1	12.1	10.3	8.1	5.9	4.1	3.2	3.3	4.6	6.7	9.3	11.8	13.9	15.0	15.1	14.3	12.8	11.2	9.8
Sun 24	9.0	9.2	10.0	11.2	12.3	13.0	12.9	11.9	10.1	8.0	6.0	4.5	4.0	4.5	6.1	8.3	10.8	13.1	14.6	15.1	14.5	13.2	11.5	9.8
Mon 25	8.6	8.2	8.6	9.7	11.1	12.3	13.0	12.8	11.7	10.0	8.0	6.3	5.3	5.1	6.0	7.8	10.0	12.2	13.9	14.8	14.7	13.6	12.0	10.1
Tue 26	8.5	7.5	7.5	8.2	9.6	11.1	12.3	12.9	12.6	11.6	10.0	8.4	7.1	6.4	6.6	7.7	9.5	11.4	13.2	14.3	14.5	13.8	12.3	10.5
Wed 27	8.7	7.3	6.7	7.0	8.0	9.5	11.1	12.3	12.8	12.5	11.6	10.3	9.0	8.0	7.7	8.2	9.4	10.9	12.5	13.7	14.2	13.8	12.6	10.9
Thu 28	9.1	7.4	6.4	6.1	6.7	7.9	9.5	11.0	12.2	12.7	12.5	11.8	10.7	9.8	9.2	9.1	9.7	10.8	12.0	13.1	13.7	13.6	12.8	11.4
Fri 29	9.6	7.9	6.5	5.8	5.8	6.5	7.8	9.4	10.9	12.0	12.6	12.5	12.0	11.3	10.7	10.3	10.4	10.9	11.7	12.6	13.1	13.3	12.8	11.7
Sat 30	10.2	8.5	7.0	5.9	5.4	5.6	6.4	7.6	9.1	10.6	11.8	12.5	12.6	12.4	11.9	11.5	11.3	11.3	11.7	12.2	12.7	12.9	12.7	11.9
Sun 31	10.7	9.2	7.7	6.4	5.5	5.2	5.4	6.2	7.4	8.8	10.2	11.5	12.4	12.8	12.8	12.5	12.2	11.9	11.9	12.0	12.3	12.5	12.5	12.0



Brian Lee

An annual marine concert, the Gunboat Bay Blues 'The Dock Project' with Peter van Deursen and his band on July 19 attracted dozens of boaters and kayakers for what has become a unique local spectacle. The event is hosted by the Mellquist family on their dock and provided free for the enjoyment of boaters and neighbours.

harbour seals



Note your Harbour Seal of Approval or Disapproval.

By email only: editor@harbourspiel.com. Include full name and telephone number. (Editor will edit for length.)

A Hotel Lake full of Harbour Seals of Approval to **Calvin**, for finding my Garmin watch and scrolling to find my name to reach out and return it to me.

Your kindness and honesty are appreciated.

Kathie Tweedie

Dumplands of Harbour Seals of Approval to the **2025 Trash Bash volunteers**.

This year brought in 1,769 kilograms of garbage and 90 kilograms of metal, eight propane tanks, 15 tires and two freezers (full of rotted food waste).

Randy Picketts
Harbour Hikers

Big Fat Seals of Gratitude to **Katrina Van der Zwan, Natasha and Dillon Baptiste, Haida Bolton, Kathryn Love, Judith Wilson,**

neighbours and friends for all the help with my moving sale.

Carole Rubin

A Harbour Seal of Approval to the **Pender Harbour Community Church, and Angela Stearns**, for holding a fabulous camp for our local kids... and free to boot.

Thank you so much.

Katherine Ayers
(and the grateful parents!)

SKOOKUMCHUCK VIEWING TIMES AUGUST

DATE-TIME-SIZE (small, medium, large, **extra large**)

EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - Standing wave is best on large flood (tide flowing into Sechelt Inlet).

1. 12:15 AM +M, 5:37 PM -S
2. 1:33 PM +L
3. 2:18 AM +L
4. 6:46 AM -L, 3:40 PM +L
5. 8:07 AM -L, **4:27 PM +XL**
6. **9:11 AM -XL, 5:13 PM +XL**
7. **9:59 AM -XL, 5:55 PM +XL**
8. **10:39 AM -XL, 6:30 PM +XL**
9. **11:16 AM -XL, 6:59 PM +XL**
10. **12:10 PM -XL, 7:20 PM + XL**
11. **12:48 PM -XL, 7:37 PM +XL**
12. 7:22 AM +L, **1:19 PM -XL**
13. 8:16 AM +L, 2:14 PM -L
14. 9:20 AM +L, 3:09 PM -M
15. 10:37 AM +L, 4:28 PM -S
16. 11:57 AM +L, 5:44 PM -S
17. 1:21 PM +L, 7:06 PM -S
18. **6:47 AM -XL, 2:33 PM +XL**
19. **8:36 AM -XL, 3:44 PM +XL**
20. **9:51 AM -XL, 4:39 PM +XL**
21. **10:48 AM -XL, 5:26 PM +XL**
22. **11:37 AM -XL, 6:04 PM +XL**
23. **11:42 AM -XL, 6:34 PM +XL**
24. **12:18 PM -XL, 6:57 PM +XL**
25. 12:53 PM -L, **7:15 PM +XL**
26. 7:20 AM +L, 1:30 PM -L
27. 8:16 AM +L, 2:14 PM -M
28. 9:10 AM +L, 3:08 PM -M
29. 10:20 AM +L, 4:12 PM -S
30. 11:29 AM +L, 5:13 PM -S
31. 12:10 PM +L, 6:21 PM -S

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.



MEASLES

1998

The year measles was declared officially eradicated in Canada, aside from the occasional travel-related case.

90%

Measles is one of the most highly communicable infectious diseases with greater than a 90% secondary attack rate among people who are susceptible.

95%

Percentage of the population required to be vaccinated to prevent person-to-person spread of measles.

70%

In Ontario, percentage of seven-year-olds considered fully vaccinated against measles during the 2023-24 school year.

90% to 83%

Coverage for the first dose of the measles vaccine has decreased from about 90 per cent in 2019 to around 83 per cent in 2023.

12%

In Canada, 12 per cent of cases this year required hospitalization.

3-5%

Percentage of Canadian parents who refuse all childhood vaccinations.

1970

Measles-containing vaccine is recommended for susceptible adults born in or after 1970. Adults born before 1970 are generally presumed to have acquired natural immunity to measles.

~ Government of Canada, Statistics Canada, CBC

AUGUST WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (Merry Island)

Our average August daily high temperature is 24 C and our average daily low is 13 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 17.7 C. August averages 22 days with temperatures above 18 C, and the highest August temperature recorded is 32.2 C (Aug. 4, 1961); the lowest is 8.9 C (Aug. 18, 1973).

PRECIPITATION (Merry Island)

August averages seven days with rainfall and a total of 38.1 mm for the month (the lowest of the year). The highest daily rainfall recorded in August was 42.4 mm (Aug. 4, 1962). August averages 275.3 hours of sunshine.

AUGUST ASTROLOGY

LEO: JULY 23 – AUGUST 22



Lions are idealists and romantics, honourable and loyal. Always individualistic, they are usually stylish, charismatic and flamboyant. This month, Leos are in for a ride.

The month kicks off with a new moon in Leo, signifying a time for fresh starts and new beginnings. That will be further boosted as Mercury retrogrades all over your sign until Aug. 10. This happens to coincide with August's full moon on Aug. 10. What this means is not fully understood as this specific culmination of astrological events last occurred in 1516.

VIRGO: August 23 - September 22



Virgos value knowledge highly and their methodical approach to life ensures that nothing is left to chance. Virgos have high standards for themselves, and their goal is

to be perfect in everything they do. On Aug. 8, the alignment of Earth, Sirius and Orion in the constellation of Leo is an opportunity to focus on manifesting your full self. Consider undergoing a 180 degree personal overhaul before your new solar year begins. Looking back on the last year might be a useful exercise in helping realize how little you have to lose.

BC BESTSELLERS

For the week ending July 19

The BC bestseller list uses sales data from over 80 independent bookstores in BC representing sales of BC published books released within the calendar year.

1. **The Cost of a Hostage: A Lane Winslow Mystery** by Iona Whishaw (TouchWood Editions)
2. **The Curve of Time: New, Expanded Edition** by M. Wylie Blanchet (Harbour Publishing)
3. **Swimming Holes and Beaches of SW BC including the Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island** by Alex McKeen & George Harwood Smith (Greystone Books)
4. **Best of BC Road Trips: 20 Epic Adventures in BC & Beyond** by Sam Burkhart (OP Media Group)
5. **105 Hikes in and Around SW British Columbia** by Stephen Hui (Greystone Books)
6. **Whitewater Cooks The Food We Love** by Shelley Adams, Conner Adams (Alicon Holdings)
7. **Indigenous Rights in One Minute** by Bruce McIvor (Nightwood Editions)
8. **Vancouver Island** by Kelly Hutchison, Dave Hutchison (Two Trees Art Publishing)
9. **Native Plants of BC's Coastal Dry Belt** by Hans Roemer & Mary Sanseverino (Harbour Publishing)
10. **The Teachings of Mutton** by Liz Hammond-Kaarremaa with Coast Salish contributors (Harbour Publishing)

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- Aug. 1: **Linda Drought, Kelly Marko and Jen Hardwick.**
- Aug. 2: **Vicky Cummings, Enya Delaney and Jessica "Lu-Lu" Kammerle.**
- Aug. 4: **Kathleen White, Daniel White, Carol Reid, Jessica Sutherland and Gloria Keene.**
- Aug. 5: **Genevieve Patterson and Bill Purnell.**
- Aug. 9: **Shirley Adams.**
- Aug. 10: **Norma Martin.**
- Aug. 12: **Ileana McBain, Mary White and Helga Morin.**
- Aug. 15: **Shane Hennan.**
- Aug. 16: **Sandy Hegyi, Paul McKimm, Anna-Maria Massullo and Justin Tiefenbach.**
- Aug. 17: **Bob Forsyth.**
- Aug. 18: **Charles Dougan.**
- Aug. 20: **June Reeder, Glen Spencer, Helga Thiele and Rachel Wilson.**
- Aug. 21: **Kory Francis and Klisala Harrison.**
- Aug. 22: **Buzzard Edwardson.**
- Aug. 23: **Kelly Reid.**
- Aug. 25: **Aubree Daniel.**
- Aug. 27: **Warne Clay, Malcolm Johnson, Danette Raaflaub and Kailee Yablonski.**
- Aug. 28: **Wilma Thompson, Mike Ough and Brent Metcalfe.**
- Aug. 30: **Donna Hobson, Megan Watters, Barbara Loftin and Roman Rand.**
- Aug. 31: **Eric English, Bryce Higgins, Corinne Gamble and Lillea Hohn.**

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**Sunshine Coast
CREDIT UNION**

Ruby Lake forest fire, 1956

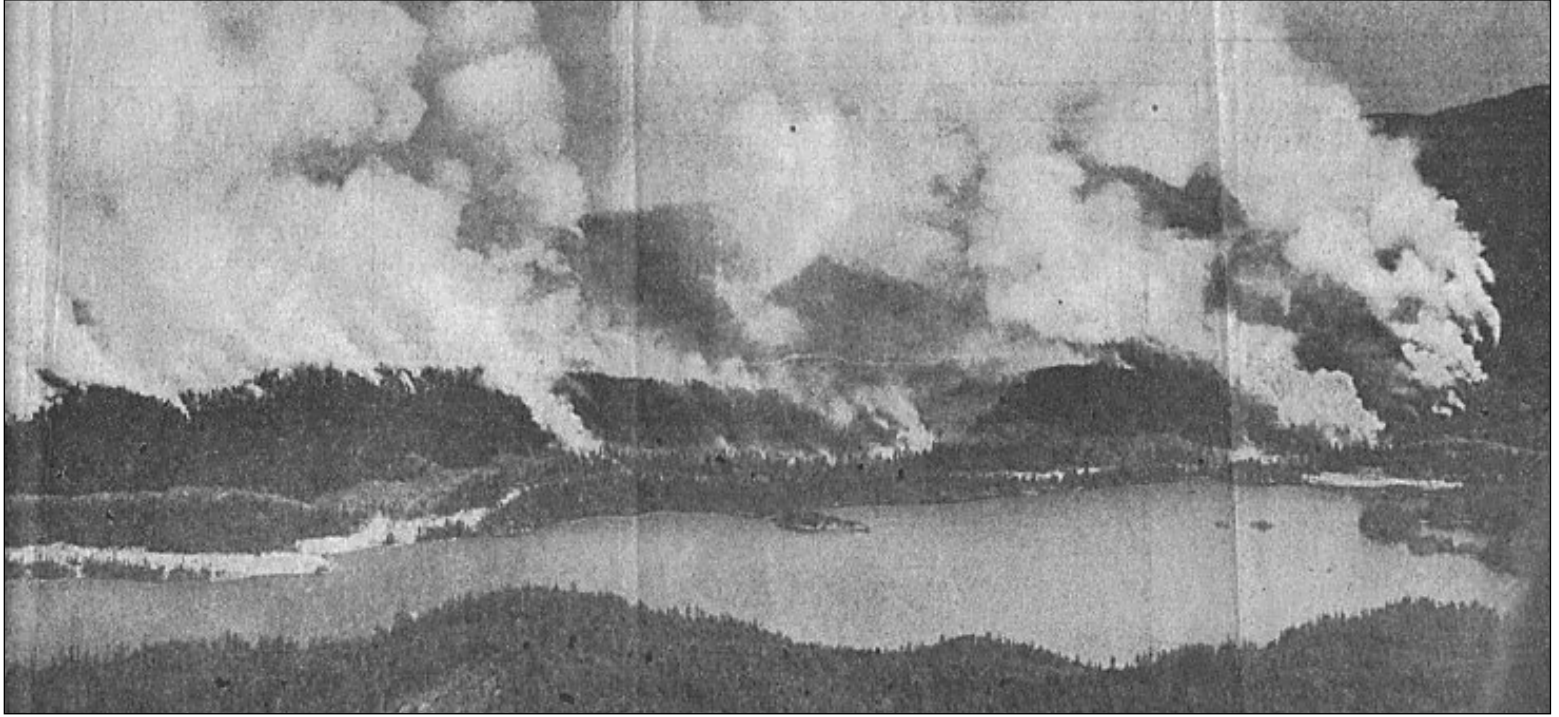


photo origin unknown

This fire on the hills above Ruby Lake in May 1956 was likely started by a passing motorist's discarded cigarette butt.



Brian Lee

This story originally appeared in the August 2015 issue of the Harbour Spiel.

With only five millimetres (0.2 inches) of precipitation, May 2015 was the driest May on the south Coast since record-keeping began in 1937.

According to the *Coast News* (June 7, 1956) the Sunshine Coast received 0.56 inches of rain that May.

That made it the driest ever and ripe for a nasty forest fire on the slopes above Ruby Lake.

It's thought the May 1956 Ruby Lake forest fire started when someone tossed a cigarette butt out the window after departing the Earls Cove ferry.

In those days, men were required by law to fight fires if conscripted by forestry officials and at that time, the wage was 75 cents an hour.

The next month, the paper reported two other, smaller fires in Jervis

and Sechelt inlets.

There isn't much information in the *Coast News* about the fire itself but, like the recent fire in Sechelt, there was plenty of blame levelled at officials for not getting it out sooner.

The following is an excerpt from the *Coast News* (May 24, 1956):

Considerable criticism can be heard in Pender Harbour area and from others who were involved, in the manner in which the Ruby Lake forest fire was allowed to get out of control when, according to those directly involved, it could have been contained the first night of the fire.

Some facts as gathered by The Coast News show that when the fire started, Hume and Rumble (logging company) men managed to keep the fire in check.

They reported to the forester at Madeira Park who went with them to see the blaze.

He is then reported to have told

the men to go home as the Forestry branch men would come and work on it in the morning after having received authority from Victoria.

There are also complaints after the fire was taken over officially that the men received no inkling as to shift work and no effort was made to provide food after long hours of work.

What incenses most people in the Ruby Lake area and the men who worked on the fire in its early stages was that it could have been kept under control quite easily with a little more work at the start.

This information is supplied by people who actually fought the fire and did all they could until they were told to go home.

One logger in the district is reported to have suffered a loss of approximately \$15,000 because the fire was allowed to get out of control.

His stand of timber, recently purchased, was practically ruined.

Pender Harbour Music Society's 2025-26 concert series

The Pender Harbour Music Society annual concert series kicks off this month with two concerts on Aug. 23 and 24. Tickets are \$30 per concert, with special pricing (\$50) for the two-day Mid-Summer and Mid-Winter Chamber Music Weekends. The PHMS is also sponsoring two programs for Madeira Park Elementary School: Morgan Tony on March 30 and Krystle dos Santos on May 25. Tickets are available on the PHMS website (www.penderharbourmusic.ca) or at Harbour Insurance and the Sechelt Visitor Centre. Concerts begin at 2 p.m. at the P. H. School of Music:



Mid-Summer Chamber Music Weekend: **VENNER QUARTET**

Saturday, Aug. 23, 2 p.m.

Joan Blackman, renowned violinist and audience favourite, has curated two contrasting afternoon programs to begin our concert series. On Saturday, Blackman brings Paule Prefontaine, violin, David Stewart, viola, and Amy Laing, cello, together to share an afternoon of string quartets by some familiar and not so familiar composers played by good friends.

THE FOUR JAYS

Sunday, Aug. 24, 2 p.m.

On Sunday, Blackman and colleagues Jodi Proznick, double bass, Julia Nolan, saxophone, and Jane Hayes, piano, collaborate in a relaxed concert of timeless treasures performed by internationally acclaimed musicians.



ADI BRAUN,

Sunday, Sept. 21, 2 p.m.

Experience “Cole Porter & Friends” with jazz vocalist, Adi Braun. Braun’s background in opera and classical helped her find her own style which she calls “cabarrazz” drawing on aspects of cabaret and jazz. She will salute the genius of Cole Porter in music from her new CD “Night and Day: The Cole Porter Songbook.”



OVER THE MOON

Sunday, Oct. 26, 2 p.m.

“Heartfelt Harmonies.” Real life couple Suzanne Levesque and Craig Bignell describe themselves as “cowbillies” but they are a lot more than that. This Juno-nominated duo blend heartfelt harmonies, masterful musicianship and a love of storytelling, along with charming banter into a performance to warm the heart.



ROCK ‘N ROLL CALL

Sunday, Nov. 23, 2 p.m.

“A Tribute to Buddy Holly.” With his resemblance to Holly in both voice and performance style, Zachary Stevenson captures the spirit and energy of the 1950s with Holly and his contemporaries’ (Ritchie Valence, Big Bopper and Chuck Berry) songs. An afternoon of timeless music delivered with passion and authenticity.



COMPANY B

Sunday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m.

“Festive Swing: A Holiday Concert.” Vintage harmonies and infectious energy accompanied by a stellar rhythm section take us back to the dance halls of the Swing era and Roaring 20s with a performance that radiates joy and nostalgia. Celebrate the season with toe-tapping fun and irresistible swing.



J. P. CORMIER

Sunday, Jan. 11, 2 p.m.

Welcome singer/songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and storyteller, J. P. Cormier. With a career spanning decades, Cormier has earned accolades for his virtuosic guitar playing, heartfelt lyrics and rich, soulful voice. His music transcends genres and borders, blending elements of folk, bluegrass, Celtic and country.



Mid-Winter Chamber Music Weekend: KAI GLEUSTEEN & CATHERINE ORDRONNEAU

Saturday, Feb. 14 and Sunday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m.

“From Barcelona with Love.” Partners in music and in life, Gleusteen and Ordronneau present two different concerts. They are known for weaving a spellbinding musical journey with passion and finesse.



MORGAN TONEY (with Keith Mullins)

Sunday, March 29, 2 p.m.

“Mi’kmalctic Magic: Tradition Meets Innovation.” Morgan Toney, 2024 Juno-nominated Celtic fiddler and singer, brings together the fiery fiddling of Cape Breton Island with the old songs of the Mi’kmaq. He calls this fusion Mi’kmalctic (Mi’kmaq + Celtic) and is his way of celebrating his language and heritage.



JANELLE NADEAU

Sunday, April 19, 2 p.m.

“Spring is in the Air.” Everyone loves the harp, and Janelle Nadeau, with her warm and engaging presence, is always a crowd favourite. Celebrate spring as Nadeau and her musical colleagues present an afternoon of diverse classical, Celtic, original and contemporary tunes.



KRYSTLE DOS SANTOS

Sunday, May 24, 2 p.m.

“BLAK, a Musical Journey.” BLAK is a powerful musical journey celebrating notable black Canadian women in music. Krystle Dos Santos sings musical stories of the Underground Railroad, the Civil Rights movement and key events in black history while weaving in iconic songs from the eras in which these women lived.

community calendar

Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month.

AUGUST

Mon. Aug. 4.....BC Day

Fri. Aug. 1.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 3.....Live music (TBA) - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.

Thu. Aug. 7.....Harbourside Friendships (Lions Park BBQ) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Fri. Aug. 8.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Fri. Aug. 8.....School of Music Coffeehouse - P. H. School of Music, 7 p.m.

Fri. Aug. 8.....Pender Harbour Wooden Boat Show - Madeira Park wharf, 3 days

Sun. Aug. 10.....P. H. Rotary Show and Shine - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 10.....Live music with Spindrift - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.

Mon. Aug. 11.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Thu. Aug. 14.....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (putting at PHGC) - P. H. Community Hall, 11 a.m.

Thu. Aug. 14.....Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts - Rockwood Centre (4 days)

Fri. Aug. 15.....Conversation in the Woods - Tyner Park, 1:30 p.m.

Fri. Aug. 15.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Aug. 16.....Muriel Cameron's 100th birthday

Sat. Aug. 16.....Royal Canadian Legion 112 golf tournament - Pender Harbour Golf Course, 2 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 17.....Rethink, Reuse Trash to Treasure community art event - Tranquillity Gardens, 11 a.m.

Sun. Aug. 17.....Live music with Mad Cow - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.

Thu. Aug. 21.....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (Ken Johnson) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Fri. Aug. 22.....Pender Harbour Health Centre open house - P. H. Health Centre, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fri. Aug. 22.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Aug. 23.....Mid-Summer Chamber Music Weekend (Venner Quartet) - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 24.....Mid-Summer Chamber Music Weekend (Four Jays) - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 24.....Live music with Matchbox Bluze - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.

Mon. Aug. 25.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Thu. Aug. 28.....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (Gwen Walwyn) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Fri. Aug. 29.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 31.....Live music with Raspberry Jam - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.

Harbour Spiel Trivia Answers: 1. c 2. d 3. a 4. d 5. b 6. c

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~ E. B. White

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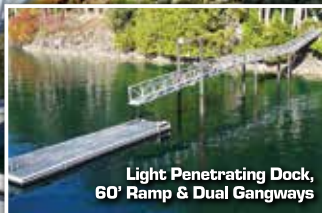


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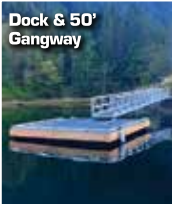
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